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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ REPORT NO. [redacted]

TOPIC Volkspolizei Dienststelle Kirchhain-Dobrilugk.

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DATE OF CONTENT [redacted]

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DATE PREPARED 14 September 1951

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REFERENCES [redacted]

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. [redacted] the Volkspolizei Dienststelle (VPD) in Kirchhain-Dobrilugk consisted of three sections. The first was an ordnance school in Dobrilugk, the second an ordnance repair shop in Dobrilugk, and the third an ammunition and ordnance depot at Hennersdorf. *
2. The ordnance school trained all ranks of police in the maintenance and use of ordnance materiel. During the course, the trainees wore identical uniforms with identical rank insignia. The ordnance engineering course was for officers and lasted about 12 months. There were about 120 trainees excluding cadre personnel. The armorer-artificer course lasted 6 or 7 months and had about 90 trainees excluding the cadre personnel. The trainees were enlisted police who already held positions as armorer-artificers with VPDs but were increasing their technical knowledge. Each class was organized into one company of four platoons.
3. Materiel available for training to Section No 1 included 2 German 37-mm AA guns, 2 German 20-mm AA guns, 1 Soviet 65-mm light field howitzer, 1 Soviet 152-mm heavy field howitzer, 1 German model-15 light 75-mm infantry gun, 1 German model-18 light 105-mm field howitzer, 1 German model-18 heavy 115-mm field howitzer, an undetermined number of medium mortars, models 30 and 41 submachine guns, model 34 light machine guns, Soviet light machine guns with drum magazines, model-98 K and S 43 carbines, Soviet model G 41 carbines, and models-08, P-38, Radom, Mauser, and a Belgian FN 7.65-mm pistols. **
4. The ordnance shop Section No 2 had a pool of civilian personnel and police who were skilled in ordnance engineering. The shop performed all kinds of repair work on ordnance materiel belonging to NVA components.
5. The ordnance shop was organized into departments for artillery weapons, small arms, and optical instruments, and included a carpenter shop, locksmith shop, a welding shop and a forge. The optical department adapted the aiming circles of artillery pieces to the Soviet 60-graduation system, and battery-commander's telescopes to the Soviet system. Spare parts for German artillery pieces were cannibalized from unserviceable German guns. The supply of spare parts for Soviet weapons from the U.S.S.R. was stopped recently.

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6. The ordnance shop also included a mobile repair shop which performed minor repair work on materiel pertaining to HVA units. It was equipped with trucks mounting heavy lathes and truck trailers mounting light lathes. It was allegedly planned to activate a large number of these mobile ordnance repair shops.
7. The ammunition and ordnance depot near Hennemersdorf, which was called Section No 3, had the cover designation Adler (eagle) and was located in a former Todt Organization camp in a woods about 5 km west of Finsterwalde. It stored optical equipment and small arms, and in underground bunkers, artillery ammunition of all calibers, ammunition of light and heavy automatic weapons and engineer explosives. The supplies arrived from the central supply depot of the HVA in Berlin. The depot at Hennemersdorf was exclusively for police purposes.
8. The following officers of the VPD were identified:

<u>Rank and Name</u>	<u>Appointment.</u>
VP Inspekteur Thiele (fnu)	School commandant, a veteran of the Spanish Civil War and a graduate of the political school in Moscow.***
VP Oberrat Schulz (fnu)	Deputy school commandant, PK officer and SED functionary.
VP Rat Lerche (fnu)	Chief of staff
VP Rat Kamin (fnu)	Director of training, an ex-artillery officer who was signed up for VP service because of his technical knowledge, but was considered politically unreliable and therefore kept under surveillance.
VP Oberrat Proehl (fnu)	Assistant director of training.
VP Rat Paul (fnu)	Assistant director of training, an ex-artillery officer, who speaks Russian fluently.
VP Unterkommissar Roloff (fnu)	Chief instructor for ordnance engineering on artillery weapons.
VP Rat Klein (fnu)	Chief instructor for ordnance engineering on infantry weapons.
VP Kommissar Franz (fnu)	Instructor for ordnance engineering on artillery weapons
VP Oberkommissar Kiesler (fnu)	SED secretary
VP Oberkommissar Hoengst (fnu)	Propaganda officer.
VP Oberkommissar Helzer (fnu)	Administrative officer.
VP Rat Schuetze (fnu)	Company commander in the ordnance engineering course.
VP Oberkommissar Bernhagen (fnu)	Company commander in the ordnance artificer course.

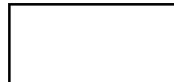
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VP Oberkommissar Prause (fnu)

Commandant of Section No2

VP Oberkommissar Mieth (fnu)

Liaison officer to the SCC and SSD in Cottbus and Finsterwalde respectively.

VP Inspekteur Leonid Ivanovich Fadeyev

Soviet liaison officer, a Soviet artillery lieutenant colonel, who was subordinate directly to the SCC headquarters in Berlin-Karlshorst and lived in the Soviet kommandatura.



Comment. The Soviet 85-mm light field howitzer was probably a 122-mm field howitzer.

Comment. VP Inspekteur Thiele was identified as the commanding officer Schwerin and Sternbuchholz until 30 June 1951. He may have been reassigned to the ordnance school in Dobrilugk.

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